NUMB. CXII.

The GUARDIAN.

——————udam
Spernit humum fugiente pennâ. Hor.

Monday, July 20. 1713.

THE Philoſophers of King *Charles* his Reign were buſie in finding out the Art of Flying. The famous Biſhop *Wilkins* was ſo confident of Succeſs in it, that he ſays he does not queſtion but in the next Age it will be as uſual to hear a Man call for his Wings when he is going a Journey, as it is now to call for his Boots. This Humour ſo prevailed among the Vertuoſo's of that Reign, that they were actually making Parties to go up to the Moon together, and were more put to it to adjuſt their Thoughts how to meet with Accommodations by the way, than how to get thither. Every one knows the Story of the great Lady, who at the ſame time was building Caſtles in the Air for their Reception. I always leave ſuch trite Quotations to my Reader's private recollection. For which reaſon alſo I ſhall forbear extracting out of Authors ſeveral Inſtances of particular Perſons who have arrived at ſome Perfection in this Art, and exhibited Specimens of it before multitudes of Beholders. Inſtead of this I ſhall preſent my Reader with the following Letter from an Artiſt, who is now taken up with this Invention, and conceals his true Name under that of *Dædalus*.

Mr. IRONSIDE,

'KNowing that you are a great Encourager of 'Ingenuity, I think fit to acquaint you, 'that I have made a conſiderable Progreſs in the 'Art of Flying. I flutter about my Room two or 'three Hours in a Morning, and when my Wings 'are on, can go above a hundred Yards at a Hop, 'Step and Jump. I can fly already as well as a 'Turkey Cock, and improve every Day. If I pro-'ceed as I have begun, I intend to give the World a 'Proof of my Proficiency in this Art. Upon the next 'Publick Thankſgiving-day it is my deſign to ſit aſtride 'the Dragon upon *Bow* Steeple, from whence after 'the firſt Diſcharge of the *Tower* Guns I intend to 'mount into the Air, fly over *Fleetſtreet*, and pitch 'upon the *May-pole* in the *Strand*. From thence, 'by a gradual deſcent, I ſhall make the beſt of my 'way for St. *James*'s Park, and light upon the 'Ground near *Roſamond*'s Pond. This I doubt not 'will convince the World, that I am no Preten-'der; but before I ſet out, I ſhall deſire to have a 'Patent for making of Wings, and that none ſhall 'preſume to fly, under Pain of Death, with Wings 'of any other Man's making. I intend to work 'for the Court my ſelf, and will have Journey-'men under me to furniſh the reſt of the Nation. 'I likewiſe deſire, that I may have the ſole Teach-'ing of Perſons of Quality, in which I ſhall 'ſpare neither Time nor Pains till I have made 'them as expert as my ſelf. I will fly with the 'Women upon my Back for the firſt Fortnight. 'I ſhall appear at the next Maſquerade dreſſed up 'in my Feathers and Plumage like an *Indian* Prince, that

(Price Two Pence.)

'that the Quality may ſee how pretty they will 'look in their Travelling Habits. You know, 'Sir, there is an unaccountable Prejudice to 'Projectors of all kinds, for which reaſon 'when I talk of practiſing to fly, ſilly People 'think me an Owl for my Pains; but, Sir, you 'know better things. I need not ennumerate 'to you the Benefits which will accrue to the Pub-'lick from this Invention, as how the Roads of '*England* will be ſaved when we travel through 'theſe new *High-ways*, and how all Family-Accounts 'will be leſſened in the Article of Coaches and 'Horſes. I need not mention Poſts and Packet-'boats, with many other Conveniencies of Life, 'which will be ſupplied this Way. In ſhort, Sir, 'when Mankind are in Poſſeſſion of this Art, they 'will be able to do more Buſineſs in threeſcore and 'ten Years than they could do in a thouſand by the 'Methods now in Uſe. I therefore recommend 'my ſelf and Art to your Patronage, and am

Your moſt Humble Servant.

I have fully conſidered the Project of theſe our Modern *Dædaliſts*, and am reſolved ſo far to diſcourage it, as to prevent any Perſon from flying in my Time. It would fill the World with innumerable Immoralities, and give ſuch Occaſions for Intrigues as People cannot meet with who have nothing but Legs to carry them. You ſhould have a couple of Lovers make a Midnight Aſſignation upon the Top of the Monument, and ſee the Cupola of St. *Paul*'s covered with both Sexes like the outſide of a Pidgeon Houſe. Nothing would be more frequent than to ſee a Beau flying in at a Garret Window, or a Gallant giving Chace to his Miſtreſs like a Hawk after a Lark. There would be no walking in a ſhady Wood without ſpringing a Covey of Toaſts. The poor Husband could not dream what was doing over his Head: If he were jealous indeed he might clip his Wife's Wings, but what would this avail when there were Flocks of Whore-maſters perpetually hovering over his Houſe? What Concern would the Father of a Family be in all the time his Daughter was upon the Wing? Every Heireſs muſt have an old Woman flying at her Heels. In ſhort, the whole Air would be full of this kind of *Gibier*, as the *French* call it. I do allow, with my Correſpondent, that there would be much more Buſineſs done than there is at preſent. However ſhould he apply for ſuch a Patent as he ſpeaks of, I queſtion not but there would be more Petitions out of the City againſt it, than ever yet appeared againſt any other Monopoly whatſoever. Every Tradeſman that can't keep his Wife a Coach could keep her a Pair of Wings, and there is no doubt but ſhe would be every Morning and Evening taking the Air with them.

I have here only conſidered the ill Conſequences of this Invention in the Influences it would have on Love Affairs, I have many more Objections to make on other Accounts; but theſe I ſhall defer Publiſhing till I ſee my Gentleman aſtride the Dragon.

This Paper is to be had of Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-houſe *Tavern in St.* James's-ſtreet; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-croſs; *Mrs.* Bolter *and Mrs.* Dodd *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Exchange-Ally.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

AT the Requeſt of ſeveral Perſons of Quality, who have appointed to meet at the famous WATER THEATRE of the late Ingenious Mr. Winſtanly at 5 of the Clock this Evening, there will be Cool Tankards with Lemons, Biskets, and German Spaw Water, all coming out of the curious Barrel, and preſented to the Boxes and Pit, with the ſame Liquors and Curioſities as at other times; and the Barrel will be crowned with a Salver of Fruit and ſweet Flowers playing of Water, which a Cupid will alſo preſent; and as 3 Parts uſed to be performed, a 4th will be added with many Curioſities, more than can be mentioned here; and a great Tempeſt of Thunder and Lightning, and Fire mingling with many Caſcades of Water. Boxes this Night 3 s. Pit 2 s. 6d. Firſt Gallery 1 s. 6d. Upper Gallery 6 d. This is at the lower End of Piccadilly towards Hide Park, and is Shown for the Benefit of his Widow.

Robert Norris, on Snow-hill, having had many Years Experience and good Succeſs in the Cure of Lunaticks, is removed to the Peſtle and Mortar near the middle of Hatton-Garden, where he hath a very convenient large Houſe and Garden, Airy and fit to receive Perſons of the beſt Rank of either Sex, with ſuitable Attendance. Any Perſon applying themſelves as above, may there be ſatisfied, that the Cure ſhall be induſtriouſly endeavoured (and by God's Bleſſing effected) on reaſonable Terms.

LONDON: Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.